2/20/71

Dear Dick, (Howard),

That parggraph on Specter is wonderful. You'll appreciate it more when you hear what Howard did to him in public. It might be more precide to say what he did to himself with Howard's skillful help, Howard having offered the petard and Specter having hoist himself. I won't take the edge off!

On 399, check, but on the test through fabric, I think it ia waste of time because there are too many other conditions to duplicate to make it meaningful and they'll pose serious problems to you. I also thing it de trop at this point. Collom is supercautious, which for me and my purposes is fine. He falls just short of saying that it was impossible for these tears to have been made by a bullet. He says that the only condition making it possible require, among other things, a velocity of 5-700 fps, which is the end of it all, on that basis alone-even if it were a bullet, and I am as undeviating on this I was from my very first writing. Wecht is so busy he's had to give up things that are professionally rewarding and profitable. He should be left alone as much as possible. Otherwise, if we have something really important, we wont be able to use him.

Hoch: I suggest leaving him entirely alone. He is no Epstein, does not believe the Report, and, although I can't explain this radical departure from what he knows about real testing, I am satisfied his purpose was <u>not</u> to prove the Report right. He never intended publication and I think there is presently little likelihood of any by A. I think we took good care of that. You'll just turn him off, and he can and does do good work with the time he has.

Our weather is breaking. The ice clings to the sides of the pool and pond, but it almsot all gone from the lane, the bottom of which is beginning to disappear. Sunny and warm today.

Me and JFK motion: Bothing new in this. I said it in WWII. There are, to me, separate and discontinuous movements, the shorter and weaker to the front. I think that if we ever learn all about the wounds we might get an explanation. It is too violent, I believe, to be a muscular or nervous reaction, and it is sufficiently less violent to that backward to suggest lower force, hence lower hit, less leverage.

Garrison can't even steal sensibly. But he had similar stories about others going into better jobs. If they are true they mean nothing. Reily was low-paid, defense and aerospace higher-paid. However, on the side of your suspicion, I think one of the Reilys was CIA. You have to understand Jim and his special kind of ego to make sense out of the news story that was made into news when it wasn't. That happened much earlier. In court was the first public acknowledgement. I've known if for almost two years. But his thinking is that because he couldn't do it, it can't and won't be done.

You did not enclose the Mitchell letter.

Emory Brown: Rt. 4, Box 82, Farmingdale. Lives on Squankum Rd. The FBI has returned the bullet with the report it has no connections with the assassination-verbal!

Types ammo: try and remember or find the simple formulation I gave you having to do with design and the convention. I think it belongs in for any use. Head and evlocities is interesting point. It all hangs on Finck's testimony about his experiences. What were the velocities of the bullets causing the wounds he examined? Much higher, no? So he was talking about cabbages and they applied it to kings. Is there any reason I'd want a copy of the neutron activation article? If there is, even for understanding, thanks, yes. No rush on Morgan. ...I'm trying to get this and other things done to mail when I take Lil into town in a few minutes. Hope I've not forgotten anywthing in your 2/8 and 2/11, both here today...You are to get the rough draft of the book-length papers I filed in court after Sylvia. Jim Lesar can now provide copies from the clear xerox of the original before filing. He has it. Cost about $5.00. I don't think you need it, but the very rough